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IDEA 0694  
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28 March 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR : Acting Chief, DPD  
SUBJECT : Project IDEALIST Concept of Operations

Attached is the FY-63 - FY-64 Concept of Operations for  
Project IDEALIST.

*Signed -*

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Lt. Colonel USAF

Chief, Special Projects Branch, DPD

**Attachments:**

- TAB A - Operations Accomplished FY-62
- TAB B - Planned Operation FY-62 as of 15 Feb 61
- TAB C - Concept of Operations - FY-1963 and FY-1964 w/Atts 1, 2, 3

**Distribution:**

- 1-AC/DPD w/Atts
- 2-DPD/Comptroller w/Atts
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**TOP SECRET**TAB AOPERATIONS ACCOMPLISHED FY-62

1. Detachment B, at Adana, Turkey, was further reduced during FY-62 leaving a total of only seven personnel as a holding force. The one remaining aircraft was disassembled and airlifted to Lockheed Aircraft for complete IRAN and modifications. Provisions have been made in Detachment B hangar to separate work areas, by the installation of a partition to allowing sharing the facility with other Air Force activities.

2. Detachment G, at Edwards Air Force Base, California, completed their first year as a ready operational unit. In addition to carrying out the operational mission Detachment G has served as a test unit for new developments, tactics, and techniques in both equipment employment and personnel management. All key project replacement personnel receive initial and familiarization training at Detachment G prior to further assignment at field units. Fourteen operational overflight sorties have been flown to date during the current Fiscal Year. Two overseas staging operations and nine Zone of Interior stagings in support of these missions were accomplished.

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**TOP SECRET**TAB BPLANNED OPERATION FY-62 AS OF 15 FEB 61

1. Nine tactical reconnaissance missions in support of COMOR requirements. These sorties will be conducted from Edwards Air Force Base with inflight refueling and post strike turn arounds at Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas when possible. In event circumstances prevent KC-135 tanker A. R. support, operation will be conducted as fast move staging through Laughlin for mission launch and recovery. Minimum staging team will be required with Laughlin Air Force Base furnishing maximum ground support equipment and spare parts as may be needed.

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2. Five tactical reconnaissance missions in support of COMOR requirements to be conducted from [REDACTED] utilizing TACKLE equipment [REDACTED]

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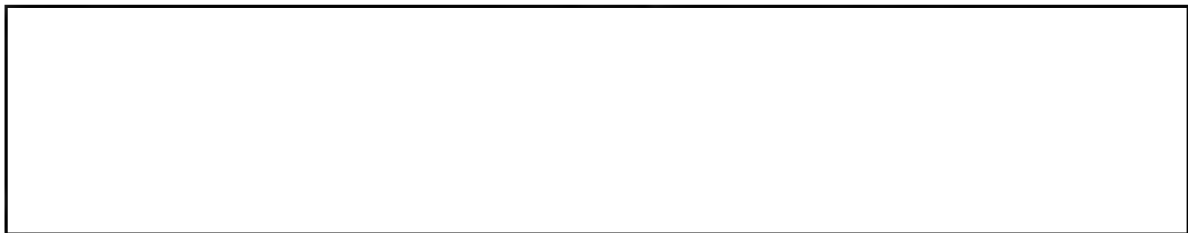
3. Four tactical reconnaissance missions in support of COMOR requirements [REDACTED] as TACKLE operations. Sorties will be launched and recovered by Detachment H [REDACTED]

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4. Two tactical reconnaissance missions in support of COMOR requirements requiring staging from Edwards Air Force Base to [REDACTED] Final planning has not been completed, however, they will require staging from an advance base with KC-135 tanker IFR support. Detachment G personnel, equipment, and spares will deploy on a 7-10 day TDY to conduct these sorties. Maximum airlift support will be required.

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6. Two tactical reconnaissance missions in support of SAC requirements. This operation will require a TDY deployment of one aircraft, complete staging team, equipment, and spares for approximately 10 days. Airlift will be provided by SAC KC-135 tanker.

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7. Planning for an increased capability of Detachment G at Edwards Air Force Base. In view of known and anticipated requirement during this and the next fiscal year, it will be necessary to man and equip Detachment G to be able to support two major staging operations at advanced bases simultaneously. Some additional manning will be necessary. However, considerable increases in equipment authorizations constitute the major changes in current unit assets.

8. Two U-2 aircraft are committed to support the testing of a new developments project in the Special Projects Branch. Both aircraft will be on loan to the contractor and not available for Project IDEALIST use until shortly after the beginning of FY 1963.

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TAB C

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CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS - FY-1963 AND FY-1964

1. DEPLOYMENT:

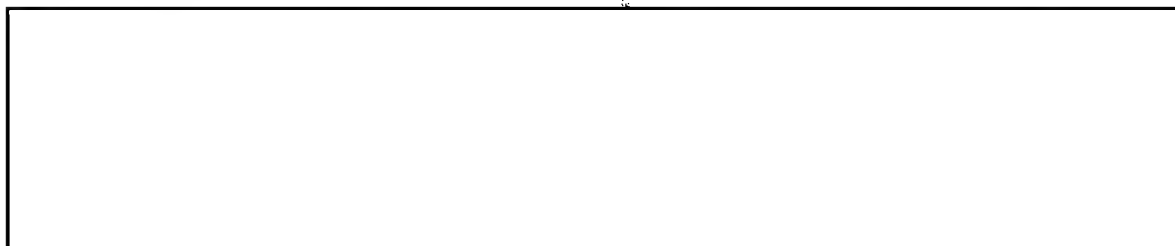
a. Exploitation of the intelligence gathering capabilities of the U-2 aircraft and its associated special equipment has steadily increased throughout FY-1962. The current indications are that the trend will continue through FY-1963, and perhaps well beyond into FY-1964.

b. A minimum of seven operational and J-75 engine equipped aircraft, with standard wiring configurations to allow for complete interchangeability of equipment are required to support this operational concept. A seven aircraft inventory will allow an allocation of two each of two separate overseas locations, two at a Zi detachment, and one aircraft rotating through IRAN and maintenance. Three of the seven aircraft should be configured with an inflight refueling capability.

(1) Two additional U-2 aircraft are scheduled for complete IRAN and conversion to J-75 engines (U-2C). One of these will also be configured for an inflight refueling capability.

c. Each detachment will be fully equipped and manned to accomplish the required photographic and electronic reconnaissance mission.

(1) Detachment G is permanently located at Edwards Air Force Base, California. Detachment G's mission responsibility is to maintain a capability to stage to forward bases on TDY status and conduct operational missions as may be required anywhere in the world. Additionally, this detachment retains the responsibilities of continuing development programs for new equipment and tactics and training new and replacement personnel.



(3) Detachment B is located near Adana, Turkey. Only a small housekeeping Detachment is permanently assigned to maintain the facilities for possible continuing use when needed. A permanent

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Detachment in the Middle East area will be established at a location, which has not been confirmed at this date. Mission requirements and diplomatic considerations will dictate the final location of this operational unit.

(4) Attachment #1 contains a list of bases planned for utilization by the IDEALIST Project.

2. MISSION AND MISSION PLANNING:

a. Mission: To conduct overflight and peripheral aerial reconnaissance (photographic and ELINT) of denied or hostile territory on a world-wide basis in support of National Intelligence objectives of the United States.

b. Mission planning for reconnaissance flights will be accomplished by Headquarters.

c. Reconnaissance operations will be programmed to cover targets of interest to the United States as developed by the Committee for Overhead Reconnaissance (COMOR). Detailed mission plans will be the result of continuous study of the latest information regarding political considerations and intelligence requirements as well as operating techniques and procedures to assure successful mission accomplishment.



3. UTILIZATION:

a. Flying hours accomplished and techniques employed during directed reconnaissance missions will be accredited to the training program for the Detachment and the individuals concerned. In addition, a continuous training program will be conducted by each permanent Detachment to assure the operational capability to conduct reconnaissance operations on a world-wide basis without additional training.

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b. During the fourth quarter, FY 1962, and advanced ELINT and telemetry capability will be developed for use at a Middle East Detachment. Upon completion of the development and testing phases, a permanent detachment will be established.

4. PRIMARY MISSION CAPABILITIES:

25X1D a. In addition to photographic and electronic collection equipment<sup>25X1A</sup> which would be carried on overflight missions, it will be necessary to maintain weather observation equipment for purposes of cover, and ☐ ☐ during period when for leaflet dropping operations is available. All special equipment will be regularly exercised in the training program at Edwards AFB, California. A list of required equipment is attached as Attachment #3.

b. An additional electronic system X will be developed, tested and added to the current list of mission responsibilities. It is anticipated that minor alterations or modifications of the U-2C will be required to accomodate this system. If feasible a standardized configuration facilitating a free interchange of aircraft within the fleet is essential for operational flexibility.

5. MAINTENANCE AND SUPPORT:

In order to maintain the high reliability of aircraft and equipment, the concept of contractor maintenance will be continued. In addition, processing of overflight photography by Eastman Kodak will be continued. With the above mentioned increase in mission responsibilities and another overseas operating location it will be necessary to revise our current "Table of Organization and Equipment". A substantial increase in authorized personnel, and additional special equipment capability, and a relatively minor increase of ground support type equipment will be required.

6. CONTROL:

Overflights and peripheral flights will be controlled by Headquarters to insure efficient target coverage and compatibility of operations with National policy.

7. SORTIE RATE:

Estimated sortie rate and flying hours by type of mission will be as indicated in Attachment #2.

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8. SUPPORT:

a. Support will be required from the following echelons. This support will be in accordance with current directives and agreements.

(1) Headquarters USAF for military personnel, commo, logistics, special airlift and to serve as liaison between USAF and Agency. AFCIG-5 will be the channel to obtain support from subordinate USAF Headquarters.

(2) Theater Commanders for air base facilities, logistic support airlift requirements, and for special liaison.

(3) Strategic Air Command for certain air base facilities, personnel, logistics support, air refueling and liaison matters.

(4) Airways Air Communications System for communications support.

(5) Headquarters Air Weather Service for weather support.

(6) National Security Agency for special intelligence reaction reports.

(7) National Technical Processing Center for ELINT readout.

(8) Department of State for negotiation for use rights to operate from foreign countries.

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10. PRE-HOSTILITIES PERIOD:

a. If international relationships deteriorate to a point where hostilities are considered imminent, penetration and peripheral photographic and ELINT sorties will be conducted at a maximum rate

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which available personnel, aircraft, and equipment can support. Although the military services have photographic and ELINT collection capabilities in the overseas theaters the U-2's are the only operational, United States manned, strategic reconnaissance aircraft capability.

b. During the period it will be essential that the maximum amount of potential strategic areas of interest be photographed so as to provide:

- (1) Most probable time when an attack would be launched.
- (2) Size of the available attack force.
- (3) Type and extent of probable attack.
- (4) Locations from where attacking forces and/or missiles would be launched.
- (5) Over-all capability to sustain an attack.
- (6) Most current target data for friendly attacking forces to use for retaliation.

c. Current electronic intelligence will be necessary to make available the frequencies and locations of radars so that:

- (1) Friendly attacking forces can employ jamming techniques most effectively.
- (2) Weak spots can be located through which attacking forces can penetrate with the least probability of interception.
- (3) Radar guidance of interceptors and/or missiles can be interrupted.

d. During the pre-hostilities period operational control will remain with Project Headquarters. Deployment to rear bases (Attachment#2) may be necessary as dictated by the existing situation. Project resources will be utilized, on a first priority basis, to obtain reconnaissance coverage of SAC objectives as outlined in Appendix I to Annex B, SAC operations Order #1009.

## II. HOSTILITIES:

a. When hostilities break out, Project overseas assets will revert to the operational control of the Strategic Air Command under the Joint Chiefs of Staff. This transfer to control and assignment

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will be in accordance with the provisions of a Joint Agreement [ ] 0239), dated 19 July 1958, with USAF, DCS/O, concurrence date 24 September 1958, and in accordance with the IDEALIST EWP Operational Plan, dated 20 January 1959. Upon execution of the SAC 50 series EWO, SAC Operations Order Number 1009, Appendix 2 to Annex B contains the necessary instructions for utilization of IDEALIST resources.

b. Military personnel will be effected in accordance with the arrangements contained in the Personnel Annex of the above mentioned transfer agreement.

c. It is planned that civilian personnel will continue to function until relieved by military personnel.

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ATTACHMENT #2

ESTIMATED U-2 FLYING HOURS

1. HEADQUARTERS DIRECTED MISSIONS:

	<u>FY 1962</u>			<u>FY 1963</u>		
	<u>Sorties</u>	<u>Duration</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Sorties</u>	<u>Duration</u>	<u>Hours</u>
Photo/ELINT	20	9	180	42	12 *	504
ELINT Peripheral	2	12 *	24	36	9	324

FERRY	9	5	45	8	9	72
FERRY	4	9	36			25X1D

TOTAL

\* IFB Refueled Men's included

2. Flying hours required for pilot proficiency based on a minimum of twelve U-2 hours per month per pilot. Flying hours obtained in accomplishing operational missions will be accredited to training requirements.

a. Pilots Assigned

FY-62 FY-63 FY-64

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3. Tracker camera will be operated on all flights except maintenance test, ferry, and transition.
4. 6000 feet rolls of film will be standard for all Headquarters directed photo missions. (Present stocks of 4000 foot rolls will be used when possible until supply is exhausted).
5. Planned operations identical for FY-63 and FY-64.
6. U-2 flying hours required per year for FY-1963 and FY-1964 equal 2160 hours.

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ATTACHMENT #3

CURRENT AIRCRAFT AND EQUIPMENT ASSIGNMENT

AIRCRAFT

CAMERAS

ELINT

LEAFLET EQUIP 25X1A

Detachment G  
Edwards AFB

3 J-75 (342)	5 Tracker	5 System III
(343)	1 A-2	2 System VI
(352)	4 B's	1 System VII
		2 System IX

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Support Aircraft

2 T-33 (5809)  
(5850)

1 U-3A (5908)

2 J-75 (378)	3 Tracker	2 System III
(358)	2 B's	2 System VI
		2 System IX

Lockheed Aircraft

1 J-57 (355) Aircraft will be assigned to Det of testing and modification pro

upon completion

RECAP

5 J-75	8 Tracker	7 System III
1 J-57	1 A-2	4 System VI
	6 B's	1 System VII
	<del>6 B's</del>	4 System IX

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